



H.Res. 916 – Honoring the contributions of Catholic schools

FLOOR SITUATION

H.Res. 916 is being considered on the House floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative Daniel Lipinski (D-IL) on January 15, 2008. The bill was referred to the House Committee on Education and Labor, but was never considered.

H.Res. 916 is expected to be considered on the House floor on January 23, 2008.

SUMMARY

H.Res. 916 resolves that the House of Representatives:

- Supports the goals of Catholic Schools Week, an event co-sponsored by the National Catholic Educational Association and the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops and established to recognize the vital contributions of America's thousands of Catholic elementary and secondary schools; and
- Congratulates Catholic schools, students, parents, and teachers across the Nation for their ongoing contributions to education, and for the key role they play in promoting and ensuring a brighter, stronger future for this Nation.

BACKGROUND

In the United States there are currently over 7,400 Catholic middle and secondary schools, with over 2.3 million students enrolled.

According to the legislation, the average student-teacher ratio in Catholic schools is 15:1.

Over 25 percent of children enrolled in Catholic schools are from minority backgrounds, and almost 14 percent are non-Catholic.

Catholic secondary schools have a national graduation rate of 99 percent, with 80 percent of graduates attending four-year colleges and 17 percent attending two-year colleges or technical schools.

During the during the 2006-2007 academic year, 36 new Catholic schools opened nationally, with 212 Catholic schools closing or consolidating.

STAFF CONTACT

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